

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 6-7, 13-19, 22, 23, 28-29, 35-41, 44, 45, 50-51, 57-63 and 66 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A ~~computer-implemented~~ method for identifying and distinguishing words contained within an electronic message, comprising the steps of:
~~scanning and comparing, in a computer,~~ message terms in an electronic message to significant terms ~~from stored by the computer in~~ an online registry to identify any ~~of the message terms in the electronic message that match~~ ~~[(ed)] the~~ significant message terms ~~stored in the online registry;~~ and
~~making distinct, in the computer, alterations to the electronic message to identify the~~ matched significant message terms ~~and~~ to indicate ~~their~~ significance to a reader.
2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic message is an authored electronic message.
3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic message is a received electronic message.
4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the significant terms are determined based upon a reader profile.
5. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the significant terms are determined based upon an author profile.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein the matched ~~significant~~ message terms are ~~made distinct~~ ~~identified~~ based upon a reader profile.
7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein the matched ~~significant~~ message terms are ~~made distinct~~ ~~identified~~ based upon an author profile.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of collecting and storing significant terms in the online registry.

9. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of collecting and storing comprises a user selecting significant terms.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of collecting and storing comprises importing significant terms.

11. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 10, wherein significant terms are imported from an address book.

12. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 10, wherein significant terms are imported from a database.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein the significant terms are selected from the group comprising ~~comprise~~ names of people, product terms and/or key words in a user's field.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein making ~~alterations to the matched-significant~~ electronic message term distinct comprises making the matched significant message terms a different color.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein making ~~alterations to the matched-significant~~ electronic message term distinct comprises making the matched significant message terms a different font effect.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein making ~~alterations to the matched-significant~~ electronic message term distinct comprises making the matched significant message terms a different font type.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein making alterations to the matched significant electronic message term distinct comprises inserting an object into the electronic message near the matched ~~significant~~ message term.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 17, wherein the object is selected ~~from the group comprising~~ comprises an image, a sound file, an icon, a link ~~and or~~ a video.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein making alterations to the matched significant message terms ~~distinct~~ is performed according to a user setting.

20. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 19, wherein the significant terms are categorized and the user setting is based upon a category of the significant term.

21. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the electronic message if the end of the electronic message has been reached.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein the making step further comprising ~~comprises~~ the step of querying a user ~~whether to make the matched term distinct before making alterations to the electronic message.~~

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A [[a]] computer-implemented apparatus for identifying and distinguishing words contained within an electronic message, comprising:

an electronic message processor, performed by a computer, for ~~scanning and comparing~~ message terms in an electronic message to significant terms stored by the computer in an online registry to identify any of the message terms in the electronic message that match ~~[[ed]]~~ significant message terms stored in the online registry; and

an electronic message editor, performed by the computer, for making distinct alterations to the electronic message to identify the matched ~~significant~~ message terms and to indicate their significance to a reader.

24. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the electronic message is an authored electronic message.

25. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the electronic message is a received electronic message.

26. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the significant terms are determined based upon a reader profile.

27. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the significant terms are determined based upon author profile.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the matched significant message terms are ~~made distinct~~ identified based upon a reader profile.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the matched significant message terms are ~~made distinct~~ identified based upon an author profile.

30. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising a term collection module for collecting and storing the significant terms in the online registry.

31. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein collecting and storing comprises a user selecting significant terms.

32. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein collecting and storing comprises importing significant terms.

33. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein significant terms are imported from an address book.

34. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein significant terms are imported from a database.

35. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the significant terms ~~are selected from the group comprising~~ comprise names of people, product terms ~~and or~~ key words in a user's field.

36. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein making alterations to the ~~matched significant electronic message term distinct~~ comprises making the matched ~~significant message terms~~ a different color.

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein making alterations to the ~~matched significant electronic message term distinct~~ comprises making the matched ~~significant message terms~~ a different font effect.

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein making alterations to the ~~matched significant electronic message term distinct~~ comprises making the matched ~~significant message terms~~ a different font type.

39. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein making alterations to the ~~matched significant electronic message term distinct~~ comprises inserting an object near the matched ~~significant message term~~.

40. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the object ~~is selected from the group comprising~~ comprises an image, a sound file, an icon, a link ~~and or~~ a video.

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein making alterations to the ~~matched significant electronic message term distinct~~ is performed according to a user setting.

42. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the significant terms are categorized and the user setting is based upon a category of the significant term.

43. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising the step of displaying the electronic message if the end of the electronic message has been reached.

44. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 23, ~~wherein the electronic message editor further comprising the step of comprises means for querying a user whether to make the matched term distinct before making alterations to the electronic message.~~

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article of manufacture embodying logic for a ~~computer-implemented method for identifying and distinguishing words contained within an electronic message, comprising the steps of:~~

~~scanning and comparing, in a computer, message terms in an electronic message to significant terms from stored by the computer in an online registry to identify any of the message terms in the electronic message that match [[ed]] the significant message terms stored in the online registry; and~~

~~making distinct, in the computer, alterations to the electronic message to identify the matched significant message terms and to indicate their significance to a reader.~~

46. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 45, wherein the electronic message is an authored electronic message.

47. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 45, wherein the electronic message is a received electronic message.

48. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 45, wherein the significant terms are determined based upon a reader profile.

49. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 45, wherein the significant terms are determined based upon an author profile.

50. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of claim 45, wherein the matched significant message terms are ~~made distinct~~ identified based upon a reader profile.

51. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of claim 45, wherein the matched significant message terms are ~~made distinct~~ identified based upon an author profile.

52. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 45, further comprising the step of collecting and storing significant terms in the online registry.

53. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 52, wherein the step of collecting and storing comprises a user selecting significant terms.

54. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 52, wherein the step of collecting and storing comprises importing significant terms.

55. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 54, wherein significant terms are imported from an address book.

56. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 54, wherein significant terms are imported from a database.

57. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of claim 45, wherein the significant terms ~~are selected from the group comprising~~ comprise names of people, product terms ~~and~~ or key words in a user's field.

58. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of claim 45, wherein making alterations to the matched significant electronic message term ~~distinct~~ comprises making the matched significant message terms a different color.

59. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of claim 45, wherein making alterations to the matched significant electronic message term ~~distinct~~ comprises making the matched significant message terms a different font effect.

60. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of claim 45, wherein making alterations to the matched significant electronic message term ~~distinct~~ comprises making the matched significant message terms a different font type.

61. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of claim 45, wherein making alterations to the matched significant electronic message term distinct comprises inserting an object near the matched significant message term.

62. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of claim 61, wherein the object ~~is selected from the group comprising~~ comprises an image, a sound file, an icon, a link ~~and or~~ a video.

63. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of claim 45, wherein making alterations to the matched significant electronic message term distinct is performed according to a user setting.

64. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 63, wherein the significant terms are categorized and the user setting is based upon a category of the significant term.

65. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 45, further comprising the step of displaying the electronic message if the end of the electronic message has been reached.

66. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 45, ~~wherein the making step further comprising~~ comprises the step of querying a user ~~whether to make the matched term distinct before making~~ alterations to the electronic message.